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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

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April 2, 1998

The Honorable Marvin Runyon
Postmaster General and Chief Executive Officer
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Mr. Runyon:

I am aware of a recent decision by the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) Board of Governors rejecting a request by the Postal Rate Commission for updated cost and revenue data for Fiscal Year (FY) 1997. I am deeply concerned that a final decision to raise postal rates may be made without taking into account possible lower mail processing costs and current revenue projections. The deferral of any action in rate case R97- 1 until a final profit/loss statement for FY 1997 is available would help maintain public confidence in the system for setting postal rates.

As you know, House Rule X, Establishment and Jurisdiction of Standing Committees, grants the Government Reform and Oversight Committee jurisdiction over the Postal Service generally, including the transportation of the mails. In accordance with the Rules of the House of Representatives I am requesting the following information:

- 1) USPS final profit/loss statement for FY 1997.
- 2) USPS final profit/loss statement for domestic mail versus international mail.
- 3) USPS final profit/loss statement for domestic parcels versus international parcels.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request. I am requesting that you provide me this information by the close of business on Wednesday, April 15, 1998.

Sincerely,



Dan Burton
Chairman